



What is the Gospel?

Our confusion:

If the gospel is only about going to _____, why should we live _____ now?

The source of our confusion is that we misunderstand _____.

The Greek word we translate as "grace" is _____.

- Not a theological term.
- It's an everyday word that simply means _____.

“Paul and the Gift” by John Barclay

Modern western societies think differently about gifts.

Conditions of a “Pure” Gift

1. _____: the giver takes the initiative.
2. _____: the more the gift cost the giver the purer the gift.
3. _____: The gift is given with regard for the worthiness of the recipient.

According to Paul, God:

1. Took the _____ to offer grace. (Rom 5:8)
2. The gift cost Jesus his life. (Eph 2:7)
3. Gave it when we didn’t deserve it. (Eph 2:8-9)

We add one more condition:

4. A pure gift is one with no _____ attached.

But this idea would have been _____ to Paul.

In Paul’s world, a gift was intended to establish a _____.

God gives us the grace because he wants to _____ with us.

God’s grace is _____, but not _____.

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

“For Christ’s love _____ us...” (vs 14)

- We are all “compelled” by something.

The gift of Christ’s love gives us a new _____ and _____. (vs. 15)

- When we die to ourselves, we look at _____ differently. (vs. 16)

The transformation is so complete, we become a _____! (vs. 17)

What business do you need to do today?

- Repent of taking the gift of God for granted.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to renew your relationship with God.
- Reconnect with God, who is drawing you into an ongoing relationship with him.
- Accept the grace of God for the first time.
- Live your life from a deep sense of gratitude for God’s grace.